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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

16th STB conducts live hand grenade range training

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GRAFENWOEHR, Germany - Soldiers from the 16th Special Troops Battalion, 16th Sustainment Brigade conducted a live hand grenade range at the Grafenwoehr Training Area, April 25–29, for the first time in unit history.

The purpose of the range was not only to train the unit's Soldiers on the employment of live grenades, but also to build up the confidence of his Soldiers according to the 16th STB commander, Lt. Col. Stephen Davis.

"This was a great opportunity for Soldiers to build confidence in their abilities to train on an item many had not done so in years," said Davis.

The unit began preparing for the range three months ahead since it had never conducted live grenade training before. The preparation had to be meticulous with safety at the forefront. Through training in Bamberg, Germany, led by a 21 member hand grenade range detail, the STB range personnel began the qualification process on how to conduct this type of range.

The first task for each grenade thrower was qualifying. Each Soldier had to qualify to Army standard before being given the opportunity to enter the live grenade pit and given an opportunity to throw three live grenades.

For most of the Soldiers it was the first time they had been given the opportunity to throw live grenades since basic training. For others it was the first time ever.

“It was exciting to see the confidence of Soldiers grow and their fear dissipate from their first live throw to their last,” said Sgt. 1st Class Turner, a member of the hand grenade range detail team. “You could really see the fear in their eyes when they are given their first grenade. When they finished throwing them, they felt like they conquered their fear of the weapon and knew could employ it if they had to in combat.”

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CUTLINE



(Left to Right) Sgt. Santiago Luna, Sgt. John Sorenson and Sgt. Lashanda Standokes of the 16th Sustainment Support Battalion, practice their form during a hand grenade range at the Grafenwoehr Training Area, April 27. (photo by U.S. Army).